

P-999/CI-87-698ACCEPTING COMPLIANCE FILINGS AND ESTABLISHING "TRUE-UP"
PERIOD

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Barbara Beerhalter	Chair
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Norma McKanna	Commissioner
Robert J. O'Keefe	Commissioner
Darrel L. Peterson	Commissioner

In the Matter of a Summary Investigation Into
the Use of Access Tariffs to Bill Jointly
Provided Private Line Services to Customers

ISSUE DATE: July 28, 1989

DOCKET NO. P-999/CI-87-698

ORDER ACCEPTING COMPLIANCE
FILINGS AND ESTABLISHING "TRUE-
UP" PERIOD

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On May 1, 1989 the Commission issued its ORDER ACCEPTING AND IMPLEMENTING TASK FORCE REPORT in this matter, which involves establishing appropriate cost allocation and billing procedures for telephone services jointly provided by Northwestern Bell Telephone Company (Northwestern Bell) and non-Bell local exchange carriers. The May 1 Order required all non-Bell local exchange carriers to file intrastate special access tariffs conforming with the recommendations of a Commission-appointed Private Line Task Force. Those tariffs were to be filed with the Department of Public Service (the Department), which was to examine them and file a report and recommendation with the Commission.

The Department filed its report and recommendation on July 14, 1989. The Department reported that all filed tariffs complied with the terms of the May 1 Order, either as originally filed or as modified in consultation with the Department. The Department reported that four companies had failed to file tariffs, but recommended no action against the companies, because the Department believed they had no customers using the services to which the tariffs would relate.

The Department advocated establishing a 90-day "true-up" period to allow for any final adjustments to intrastate common carrier line charges and local switching rates found necessary in light of actual experience with the new billing procedures. Finally, the Department recommended approving a proposed change in Sherburne County Rural Telephone Company's LS-1 rate, to correct an earlier computational error.

No other party commented on the Department's report and recommendation. The matter came before the Commission on July 18, 1989.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Commission accepts the Department's review of the companies' proposed tariffs as accurate and complete. The Commission will adopt the Department's recommendations and approve or modify each proposed tariff as indicated on the Department's Chart of Company Compliance, attached hereto and labelled Appendix A.

The Commission agrees with the Department that Sherburne County Rural Telephone Company should be allowed to correct the computational error in its LS-1 rate and will so order.

The Commission agrees that a 90-day true-up period would facilitate the transition between the old billing procedure and the new, and the Commission will establish such a period.

The Commission will take no action at this time regarding those companies which have failed to file proposed tariffs.

ORDER

1. The special access/private line proposed tariffs filed by the non-Bell local exchange carriers are approved or modified as indicated in the Chart of Company Compliance, attached hereto and labelled Appendix A.
2. The tariffs approved herein shall go into effect August 1, 1989.
3. Sherburne County Rural Telephone Company's proposal to revise its LS-1 rate to correct a computational error is approved.
4. A 90-day "true-up" period will begin August 1, 1989 to allow any final adjustments to intrastate common carrier line charges and local switching rates found necessary in light of actual experience with the tariffs approved herein. All common carrier line charges and local switching rates charged during this period are subject to surcharge or refund.

5. Companies wishing to revise their intrastate common carrier line charges or local switching rates based on their experience with the new billing procedures shall submit proposed revised rates and tariffs, together with proposed refund or surcharge plans, to the Department of Public Service no later than September 15, 1989. Revised rates shall not become effective until approved by the Commission.
6. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Mary Ellen Hennen
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)